United States Joint Forces Command
Joint Experimentation Directorate

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New Tools for the Challenges of the War on Terrorism

U.S. Joint Forces Command's concept development and experimentation in support of the transformation of the Department of Defense is an indispensable component of the war on terrorism.

This war cannot be won with legacy means. Development of advanced techniques, tools, and organizations for the now-evident challenges of the 21st century requires new thinking and aggressive experimentation with alternatives for the future joint force.

The President recently outlined his three-part intent for the prosecution of this new type of war. The first goal is to protect the homeland. The second goal is to defeat or to destroy terrorist groups. The third goal is to influence or coerce regimes that support terrorism. JFCOM's in-depth work on the concept of Rapid Decisive Operations directly addresses the second and third goals of the overall intent. It describes a campaign for defeating an adversary quickly and decisively through a series of strikes. These strikes would employ the full range of national capabilities in order to generate maximum effect on the enemy and to break the coherence of the enemy's ability to m

Fact File

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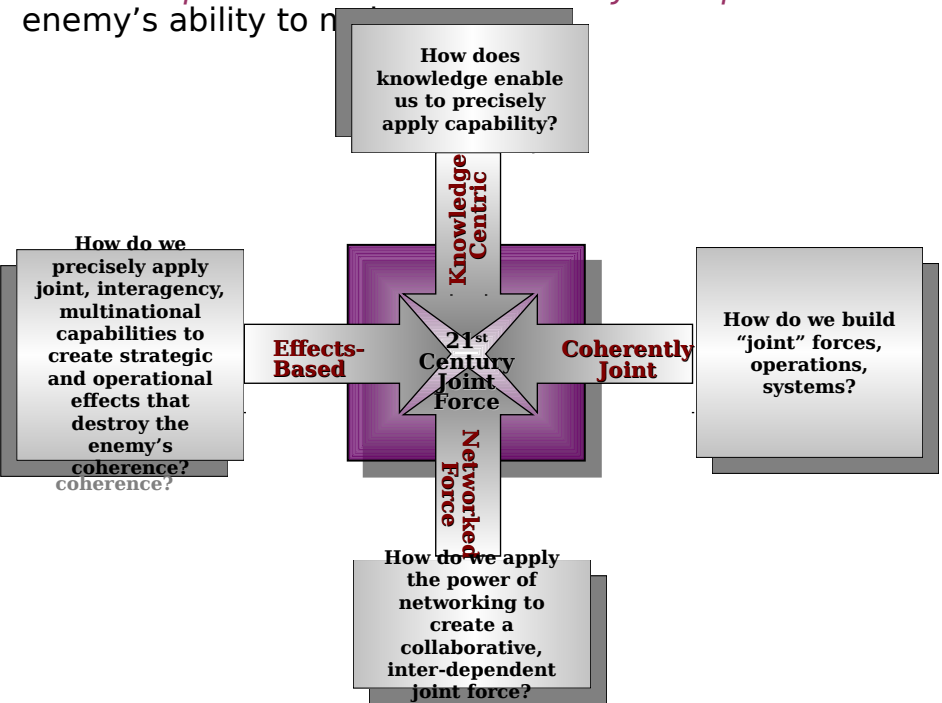
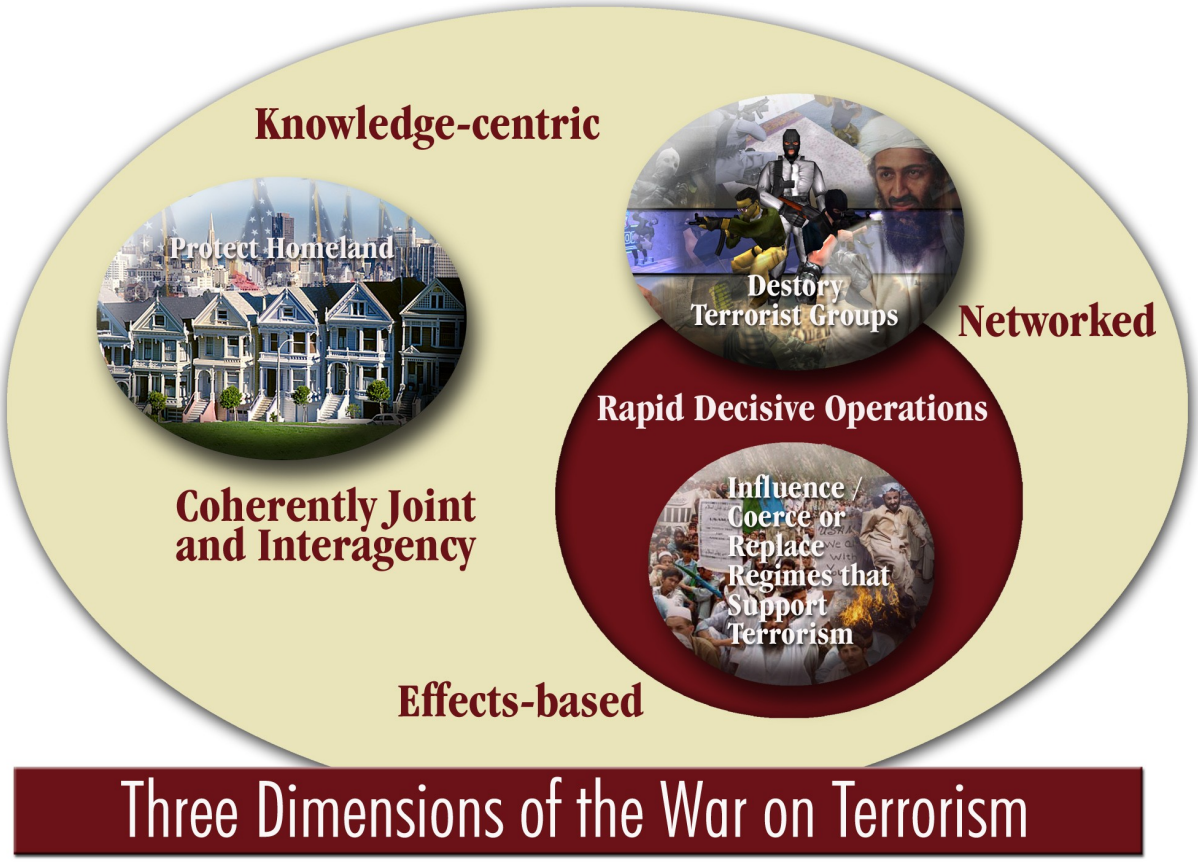
Capstone Elements of Future Joint Operations


How does knowledge enable us to precisely apply capability?
Knowledge Centric
How do we precisely apply joint, interagency, multinational capabilities to create strategic and operational effects that destroy the enemy's coherence?
Effects-Based
21st Century Joint Force
Coherently Joint
How do we build "joint" forces, operations, systems?
Networked Force
How do we apply the power of networking to create a collaborative, inter-dependent joint force?

Notably, however, the RDO-concept experimentation campaign has also generated significant learning on operations that are knowledge-centric, are coherently joint and interagency, are networked, and are effects-based. These four principles apply not only to the entire spectrum of joint operations (with highest application to the requirements of a rapid, decisive operation), but also to the broader requirements



JFCOM's experiments have already explored national security challenges few thought possible a few years ago. For example, our experiments have already examined how a rapid, decisive operation can be conducted in a complex environment that could include the condition of having to conduct a military strike across global distances while bases and other capabilities within the United States are under attack by asymmetric means such as ballistic missiles and terrorist strikes. Our continuing concept development through experiments and other exploratory venues will assuredly focus on the broad issues of national security - to include how the joint force can best be used to protect the homeland - as well as the more specific issues and challenges involved with taking the fight to the enemy on the enemy's turf, not ours.

Recently, JFCOM leveraged the Joint Experimentations Directorate's (J9) maturing concept of an experimental command and control element to quickly form an operational team capable of infusing intelligence and operations with other unique functions into a working directorate capable of interfacing with DoD and other federal agencies to assist, or directly support, our country's home land security mission. Embedded in this new organization are functions which are based on the concept framework found in the J9 concepts "Operational Net Assessment", "Rapid Decisive Operations" and "Effects Based Operations". JFCOM is clearly leveraging the intellectual work and results of J9 experimentation to set a solid foundation for